

e-Bugle

Garrett Bugle Internet Edition

Volume 59

June 2012

No. 6



Calendar

Fri., May 25	Pick up your <i>Bugle</i> at PO lobby	Mon., June 11	Town Council Meeting, Town Hall, 7:30 pm
Sat., May 26	Pool opens, 10 am		
Mon., May 28	Memorial Day; Picnic, Pool, 5 pm; <i>No trash collection</i>	Tues., June 12	Lunch Bunch, Town Hall, 12:30 pm; <i>Bugle</i> deadline for last issue before summer break, 4 pm
Thurs., May 31	Seniors Special Event, Town Hall, 3:30–5:30 pm (see p 3); GP Casual Music Jam, Town Hall, 8 pm	Thurs., June 21	GP Casual Music Jam, Town Hall, 8 pm; Last day of public schools
Sat., June 2	GIVES collection, Penn Place, 9 am–1 pm; Deadline for summer calendar dates for the next <i>Bugle</i> to Mary Moyer (301-933-5764)	Fri., June 22	Film Society, <i>The Adventures of Robin Hood</i> , Town Hall, dinner 7 pm, film 8 pm (see p 3); Pick up your <i>Bugle</i> at PO lobby
Sun., June 3	Musicale for Gieser Scholarship, Town Hall, 4 pm; <i>Bugle</i> deadline for names of graduates (see p 4)	Sat., June 23	A capella concert for Betsy White Fund, Town Hall, 7:30 pm (see p 3)
Mon., June 4	Art at Penn Place, the work of Robert LeMar (see p 2)	Wed., June 27	Citizens Association Meeting, Town Hall, 8 pm, topic TBA
Thurs., June 7	GP Casual Music Jam, Town Hall, 8 pm	Thurs., June 28	Happy Hour, Town Hall, 2–4 pm
		Sat., June 30	Large item pickup

Is It Possible to Have a Roofless Oriel?

The answer to that pressing question is no, because, as Harry Gordon explained, an oriel is a bay window, and a bay window by definition is roofed.

Much of May's Town Council meeting reminded your reporter of philosophy classes she took in college, where the professor would say things like *Imagine a surface of no color whatsoever*. As the Council worked out—in exacting detail—the language of the proposed revised land use ordinance, extensive discussion of the differences between *adjacent* and *adjoining*, and *shall* and *should* turned the town hall into a seminar room.

Unlike those bull sessions, however, the Council seemed eager to—in the words of our new mayor—"bring this to closure." So the Council pored through the latest draft of the ordinance, editing its language for clarity, and eventually the Council was indeed able to vote—unanimously—to approve the revised document. Public comment on it will be the next step.

Although discussion of the language of the ordinance was the meeting's main event, there's other stuff to report. And of course I need to set the scene: It was a dark wet evening that beautifully set off the lush planting of Garrett Park's yards.

The meeting began with some presentations by residents. Joanne Schmader, on behalf of GP CAN, which wants the town to participate in the Sustainable Maryland Communities program, asked the Council to assign a liaison from its members to work on this project with their organization. Mayor Benjamin replied that the new Council would be meeting the next day to hand out member assignments, and it seemed likely that this would be one of the assignments.

Liz King then rose to thank the Council for its help with the revised MARC schedule.

Finally, Barbara Collier took the microphone to address the issue of fees for the use of town facilities, speaking in support of favorable treatment of

(continued next page)

(continued from previous page)

the Tuesday yoga class offered at the Town Hall. She noted that the class attracts, among others, “a core of Garrett Parkers,” and represents “a really nice amenity for the town.” Mayor Benjamin responded that we are indeed reviewing our policies on fees, and it is a matter of ongoing discussion.

Town Administrator Ted Pratt then talked about the budget. The main news item here involves the county having recently informed the town that the county made a mistake over the last few years: It gave us a total of around \$78,500 that it *shouldn't* have given us (something to do with property taxes). And now they want it back! “It’s ... a liability,” said Ted, grimly. “We’re ... looking into this,” said the Mayor, grimly.

Just before the meeting was adjourned, Ted announced that the town had granted a Garrett Park family permission to raise chickens. The orange foxes who live at the top of your reporter’s property will be most grateful.

Margaret Soltan

Art at Penn Place

Beginning Monday, June 4, the oil paintings of Garrett Park resident Robert LeMar will be on display at the Penn Place Art Space. I asked Robert to write a few sentences about why he paints, and what he paints. He writes: “I paint because I can. I have always had the ability to draw and paint what I see well, so I have always done it. I get a great amount of satisfaction from being able to depict what I see, in three dimensions, onto a flat surface. In my paintings, I usually like to distinguish an object from the space around it boldly, by accentuating its outline in some way.

“I like how ordinary objects reflect the different colors of light that strikes them from all directions. These different colors are the result of reflections in themselves. My goal is to try to accentuate these reflected colors in my work. Oil is my medium of choice now, but when I was a young child, I didn’t like the smell or greasy texture of oil paint. Years of painting have led me to an appreciation of oil paint as superior to all others.”

Bert Zbar

Women’s Club Notes

Half price sale on Garrett Park dark green “tree” tee-shirts: only \$5! This is the tee-shirt designed in 2008 by the late Donal McLaughlin of Garrett Park. See a photo on the Post Office notice board.

Limited number and sizes are available. Shirts are for sale at the Garrett Park Town Office.

Save the Date!

The annual Pooch Parade is scheduled for Saturday, July 7, at 11 am. More information will follow.

Town Administrator Notes

Town elections. Many thanks for the fine work of the Judges of Election: Chief Judge Brenda Artim and Judges Margaret Goldsborough and Cliff Tarpy. Thanks also to poll workers Bob Flanders, Farhad Heidarian, and Natalie Grande. Congratulations also to Peter Benjamin, elected Mayor, and to Tara Flynn and Hans Wegner, elected Councilmembers.

Large item collection. There will be a large item collection Saturday, June 30.

Garrett Park building permits. We are well into the building season, and I would like to remind everyone to please check with the Town Office to find out if your project needs a Garrett Park permit. A town permit is required to demolish any building larger than 400 square feet. Also, a Garrett Park building permit is required whenever a new structure is to be built, including a new house, shed, garage, or similar structure, or when the size of a house is proposed to be increased with an addition, a deck, a porch, or the like. The town is concerned only with the relationship of the proposed construction to the size of the lot and its setback from the lot’s boundary. The town also requires a permit for driveway or parking pad construction or repair. A town building permit should be applied for before the application for a Montgomery County building permit.

Montgomery County building permits. Montgomery County requires building permits for any structure above ground level (not patios or driveways), including sheds, garages, decks, fences, etc. A county permit is also required for any alteration to a structure (other than ordinary repair or maintenance) and for demolition. The county is concerned with zoning, health and safety, plumbing, structural and electrical issues, and the like. For more information, contact the Montgomery County Department of Permitting Services at 240-777-6300.

As always, the Town Office will assist you in any way possible.

Ted Pratt, Town Administrator

Visit Garrett Park’s Web site:

www.garrettpark-md.gov

The *Garrett Bugle* is a publication of the Citizens Association of Garrett Park, published 10 times a year. Publication of the *Bugle* is supported by member dues. All residents of Garrett Park are members of the Citizens Association. Yearly dues (\$20 per family or \$10 per individual per address) can be sent to Citizens Association, Box 456, Garrett Park, MD 20896.

Citizens Association Officers:
President: Mario Grande (mfgrande@aol.com)
Vice-President: Todd Harris
Treasurer: Michael Lutkenhouse
Secretary: Lori Conlan

Bugle staff:
Editor: Barbara Collier (Box 191)
Reporters: Margaret Soltan (Box 518), Mary Moyer (Box 98)
Ads: Mary Moyer (Box 98)
Subscriptions: Jane Salomon (Box 227) **Distribution:** Peggy Pratt

First-class subscriptions cost \$15 (bulk mail subscriptions are no longer available). Letters to the editor can be submitted by mail or hand to *Bugle* staff or by e-mail through the town Web site: www.garrettpark-md.gov/submit-BugleArticle.php. The editor reserves the right to edit submissions for length and clarity. Unsigned letters will not be printed.

Robin Hood Returns!

In honor of its 10 years of showing films from all periods and countries, the GP Film Society is pleased to reprise one of its most popular films from its very first series, *The Adventures of Robin Hood* (1938). With Errol Flynn at his most swashbuckling, Olivia DeHavilland at her most demure, and Basil Rathbone at his most sinister, the whole family is sure to cheer, laugh, and have a rollicking good time.

The film is to be shown on Friday, June 22, at 8 pm at the Town Hall. Admission is free to GPFS members, \$5 per person or \$10 per family (and we interpret this broadly), so bring grandparents, children, and grandchildren for a beginning-of-summer get-together with friends and neighbors.

And plan to come early for dinner (7 pm), which will fit the film and the season. Weather permitting, tables will be set up outside for a picnic supper. Vegetarian options will be available. Cost for dinner, including dessert, is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 11 and under. Soda, bottled water, beer, and wine will be available at costs ranging from \$1 to \$5.

How better to start the summer than with this classic tale of good guys combating evil rulers in Sherwood Forest?

A Cappella at Town Hall

The GP Women's Club presents "Venus d Minor in Concert," featuring our neighbor, Amy DeLouise! Join us at 7:30 pm on June 23 at the Town Hall. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door; half of the ticket sales will go to the Betsy White Fund.

Started in spring of 1995, Venus d Minor is a women's a cappella octet performing in a wide variety of musical styles (see www.venusdminor.com). From pop to jazz standards, from classical to new wave, Venus brings its unique sound and brand of humor to audiences around the Washington, D.C., area.

For advance tickets, e-mail venusdminor@gmail.com. Include phone number and a good time to call.

You're Invited!

On Thursday, May 31, from 3:30 to 5:30 pm, please join us at the Town Hall for this month's Seniors' event: an energizing afternoon social with Girl Scout Troop 2366.

Games! Snacks! Energy saving ideas! Skits! Girl Scout cookies!

Hope to see you there!

Elizabeth Henley

Ask me about the
**GREENSAIL
ADVANTAGE™**

www.greensailrealty.com

 Beth Irons, GRI
Broker/Owner
301.942.4849

  



**9am-9pm
Mon-Sat
9am-7pm
Sunday**

301-493-6217
www.grosvenormarket.com

Grosvenor Metro

Strathmore | Tuckerman | Rockville Pike

10401 ↗ Market

Grosvenor Place

 Find us on Facebook

David Altar
David.Altar1@gmail.com

(301) 602-2713

COMP2DAY

Your computer ready, today or tomorrow

Fast, professional repairs & hardware upgrades. At home tutorials. Your computer likely as good as new, or better in most cases.

\$35/hr next day, \$45/hr same day. Free pick-up and return.

Virus removal; **memory** upgrades; restore **speed**; computer to **smartphone** assistance; **printer** help; custom computer builds for **gaming** or other needs. Can't start your computer? **Blue screen** at startup? Computer **slow**? Programs, devices, or features **don't work**? Need **wireless** capabilities? Call or email me and a solution will appear.

"Serving Garrett Park since 2010"

Services for Seniors

Activities of Daily Living

- Bathing
- Dressing
- Lifting
- Transferring
- Personal Care & Hygiene

Support Services

- Companionship
- Meal Preparation
- Medication Reminder
- Physical Therapy
- Light Housekeeping
- Transportation to Appointments

What Makes ElderCaring Different?

- 2 hour minimum for services – most companies require 4 hours as a minimum
- All caregivers are professionally trained nursing assistants
- The owner of ElderCaring personally meets with you to discuss your needs
- All caregivers are fluent in English
- Personal choice in selection of every caregiver
- Licensed, Bonded, Insured
- 24 Hours Service – 7 Days a Week

Services now available in Northern Virginia

"The quality of care you would want for your parents."

 MD • Call 301-949-0060 VA • Call 703-956-3564
www.eldercaring2.com www.eldercaringofnova.com

Would you like to receive a brochure in the mail, or set up an appointment?

Bugle Notes . . . Sweet and Sour

- ♪ So far we have received word on only three graduates from Garrett Park. Surely there are more students ready to finish their education and begin putting it to good use. Give Mary Moyer a call by June 3 to be included in the next issue.
- ♪ The new curbs and gutters work. Now if the newspaper deliverer would not leave the paper in the morning right where the water is rapidly going downhill! It makes for soggy reading.
- ♪ Do you have an event announcement that you want to have published in the *Bugle* over the summer? Give Mary a call with the particulars by June 2 for inclusion in the July *Bugle* (appearing late June). We don't publish again till the October issue (appearing late September).
- ♪ GPES is growing again. At the moment it looks like there will be 5 kindergartens, 4 first grades, 5 second grades, 4 or 5 third grades, 3 or 4 fourth grades, and 3 fifth grades. It's a good thing they built the as-yet-unused addition of four rooms to the new school.
- ♪ We haven't heard whether the mysterious backyard beast (reported in the last *Bugle*) has been identified, but we've had several sightings of red foxes, and of course the ever-present deer and rabbits. We've also been hearing strange screeches in the night: Foxes? Or something else?
- ♪ Word on the street is that the Citizens Association is looking for pie judges. Sounds like the second annual GP Pie Throwdown is in the works. Any discerning palates out there?

Remembrance of *Bugles* Past

On Sunday, April 29, in the Town Hall, a group of Garrett Parkers and guests had an interesting get-together discussing the history of the *Bugle* and the town. A panel (Chris Fischman, Sue Petito, Joan Kennedy, and Barbara Shidler, along with *Bugle* staff Barbara Collier and Mary Moyer) was on hand to discuss gleanings from old *Bugles*, and both panel and audience found plenty to cover.

We were happy to welcome John Hall, who was one of the group of kids who put out the first *Bugle* in 1954, and whose father Clyde Hall kept it going and acted as editor for several years. John had tales of youthful mischief to share along with his *Bugle* memories. Also in attendance was Ned Dolan, Garrett Park notable and long-time Uncle Sam, who provided an insider's perspective on past Town Councils.

Among the things mentioned in the course of the afternoon: Did you know that the original *Bugle* was subscription based and delivered to subscribers' homes? (Any kids up for that these days?) And that there was a move for Garrett

Park to take ownership of our piece of Strathmore Avenue? (It all came to naught, of course.) How about the town's sponsorship of Hungarian refugees in the 1950s?

Thanks to all who participated for an enjoyable afternoon.

Come to the Musicale!

The next Garrett Park musicale will be held on Sunday, June 3, at 4 pm in the Town Hall. This annual event raises funds for a music scholarship for a 5th grade student at Garrett Park Elementary School. The late Ilah Gieser of Garrett Park, in a gesture of generosity, conceived the idea of an annual \$1,000 scholarship to fund a year's private lessons for a worthy young musician in the local community. To raise money for the scholarship, we hold a musicale every spring to showcase a rich array of vocal and instrumental talent.

Join us! If you haven't attended before, you'll be surprised at the range and variety of talent in and around our little town.

FOUNDING FARMERS
...REAL FOOD & DRINK

A Garrett Park
Citizen-owned
Restaurant!

Farm-to-table American fare, made daily,
from scratch, with the finest ingredients!

BREAKFAST
DINNER
WEEKEND BRUNCH

FOUNDING FARMERS
POTOMAC

LUNCH
AFTERNOON SOCIAL

12505 Park Potomac Avenue (270 & Montrose)
301.340.TRUE www.wearefoundingfarmers.com

PFF loves GP! If you live at 11006 Kenilworth, 11304 Rokeby, or 4702 Argyle, you've won a \$30 gift card! Email dan@vsag.com to claim your prize and have it delivered to your house!

GOLDSBOROUGH
Glynn
ANTIQUES & DECORATIVE ARTS

KENSINGTON ANTIQUE ROW
3746 HOWARD AVENUE
ANTIQUEROWSISTERS@VERIZON.NET
301-933-4460 + OPEN 7 DAYS

YOUR GARRETT PARK NEIGHBOR, MARGARET GOLDSBOROUGH

Visit us on
Facebook

Letter from the Mayor

Thank you for giving me this opportunity once again to serve Garrett Park. Thank you, also, to former Mayor Chris Keller, who spent 10 years on the Council and 4 as Mayor, contributing unstintingly to our town. Chris has been a dedicated and caring elected official, who had as his goal the best interests of the town and its residents. He has been a thoughtful and knowledgeable leader who has shared his talents to the benefit of us all. Thanks are due Beth Irons, whose skills, abilities, and hard work have benefited the town during her years as Councilmember, and who undertook the daunting task of dealing with our land use and setback issues.

Land use and the issue of what you can do with your property have been matters of concern to the town since its incorporation, which occurred specifically to prevent Mrs. Grace E. D. Sprigg from installing indoor plumbing and a cesspool. I believe that only this year was the last septic system in town replaced with a connection to sewer service. Our Land Use Task Force worked long and hard to bring to the Council recommendations on updating our setback ordinance and replacing it with zoning provisions. The Council then tried to implement the key recommendations of that task force with emphasis upon consistency with county zoning law, sim-

plicity, and transparency into the rules and process.

That turned out to be much more difficult than first imagined, as the Council, with Beth's expert leadership, tried to incorporate county code into our rules. It was quickly discovered that county rules were internally inconsistent, that interpretation of the provisions sometimes deviated from the strict wording of the law, and that some portions of the code were not implemented. It required numerous cycles of asking Montgomery County Permitting Services about the intent, meaning, and application of statute to unravel the complexities. Through the attempt to comport with the main provisions of county law while still making our ordinance consistent, understandable, and effective, it became clear that the county provisions could not be incorporated wholesale; they had to be restructured to be true to how the county actually implemented its code, to make them meaningful to the reader, and to fit them into town provisions on related issues.

I am happy to report that at the May Town Council meeting, we were able to make the last changes to the long-evolving Town Land Use Ordinance and to introduce a version that we intend to take to public hearing at our next meeting, on June 12. We hope at that time to adopt an ordinance that truly reflects the desires of the town, recognizing that we may make additional changes to reflect any issues raised at the hearing. Mayor Keller, Councilmember Irons, and Setback Committee Chair Harry Gordon are responsible for most of the effort in this Herculean task, and the Council showed incredible patience and endurance during the process.

We are currently preparing the ordinance for review by the public in preparation for the hearing. Our aim is to have it on the Garrett Park Web site and available in hard copy at least two weeks before the hearing. If this is an item of interest to you, please join us on June 12 and share your thoughts with us.

Peter Benjamin

Put the #1 to work for you

It's official. Jeremy Lichtenstein is Maryland's number one RE/MAX[®] agent in 2007, 2006, 2004 and 2003.

In real estate, experience counts. Jeremy brings together satisfied buyers and sellers in your neighborhood—and has for over 20 years.

There is just One Name in Real Estate.

Jeremy
The One Name in Real Estate



Jeremy Lichtenstein • RE/MAX Realty Services
4825 Bethesda Avenue • Bethesda, Md. 20814
www.jeremyhomes.com • 301.652.0400

